

VZCZCXYZ0008  
PP RUEHWEB

DE RUEHKA #1242 3371133  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
P 021133Z DEC 08  
FM AMEMBASSY DHAKA  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7842  
INFO RUEHLM/AMEMBASSY COLOMBO PRIORITY 8742  
RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY 2482  
RUEHKT/AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU PRIORITY 9981  
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY 0962  
RUEHGO/AMEMBASSY RANGOON PRIORITY 2695

UNCLAS DHAKA 001242

SIPDIS

EAP/RSP FOR KEVIN SHEIVES

E.O. 12958: N/A  
TAGS: [PREL](#) [EAID](#) [MARR](#) [ARF](#) [KCRS](#) [BG](#)  
SUBJECT: US-PHILLIPINES ARF DISASTER RELIEF EXERCISE:  
BANGLADESH INTERESTED BUT NON-COMMITTAL

REF: SECSTATE 122937

1. (U) On Sunday November 23, PolOff met with Masudur Rahman, Director of the Americas Wing at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, to encourage the Government of Bangladesh (GOB) participation in the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) Disaster Relief Exercise scheduled for May 4-8. Rahman expressed interest, noting that Bangladesh has cooperated closely with ARF countries and promised that the GOB would do its best to send a delegation. He added that the size of a delegation would not exceed three individuals, but was not yet in a position to discuss specifics yet given the timing of the event.  
PASI